



BELIEF OR **COMMITMENT?**

OCTOBER 30, 2011

PART 2

Belief or Commitment?

“There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” John 3:1-2

Why by night?

**NICODEMUS WANTED TO BE A _____,
BUT JESUS WANTED A _____.**

DIAGNOSING FANDOM

Do you believe in Jesus? Or do you follow Him?

“You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?” James 2:19-20

“Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.” Luke 9:23

FANS VS FOLLOWERS

1. Fans do not want Jesus to _____ in their lives

“If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. 27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.” Luke 14:26-27

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.” Luke 14:33

Has following Jesus cost you anything?

2. Fans focus only on the _____ of a relationship with Jesus, but never the _____ of it.

“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.” Matthew 16:25

What was the last real sacrifice you made in order to follow Jesus?

3. Fans want to keep their relationship with Jesus _____

“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 10:32-33

Who was the last person you spoke to about your relationship with Jesus?

John 7:45-52

“Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why have you not brought Him?”

The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this Man!”

Then the Pharisees answered them, “Are you also deceived? Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed.”

“Nicodemus (he who came to Jesus by night, being one of them) said to them, “Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?” They answered and said to him, “Are you also from Galilee?”

“And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.” John 19:39